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FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PROGRAM To Tell the Truth

STATION WTTG TV  
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CITY Washington, DC

JOE MAGGIO

CIA. GARY MOORE: Now, let's meet our former man from the

MAN: Number one, what is your name, please?

NUMBER ONE: My name is Joe Maggio.

MAN: Number two?

NUMBER TWO: My name is Joe Maggio.

MAN: Number three?

NUMBER THREE: My name is Joe Maggio.

MOORE: And here is the startling story of Joe Maggio.  
It says: "I, Joe Maggio, am a journalist and novelist and a former

member of the Central Intelligence Agency. In my new factual novel called, "Company Man," I expose the shadow world of the CIA, which conducts covert and clandestine actions around the world. I tell of how our country's top brass ignored CIA warnings that anti-Castro Cubans were not ready to fight at the Bay of Pigs. And, how our Senate was tricked into signing the disastrous Gulf of Tonkin Resolution.

"Under the chilling philosophy that nothing is immoral if done to protect America, a CIA operator is schooled in the most sophisticated espionage and killing devices and when something goes wrong, in order not to compromise the U.S. position around the world, an agent will be callously abandoned and sometimes killed. Signed, Joe Maggio."

[Applause].

MOORE: And, Kitty, I turn these gentlemen over to you.

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KITTY CARLISLE: Thank you. It's fascinating.

Number one, isn't it unusual for a member of the CIA to write a book about it? Most of the people who've been in it are very silent when it's over.

NUMBER ONE: The people who are mostly silent are those who are on a career basis. The contract employees, if they leave, can write after a certain period of time.

CARLISLE: Thank you. Number two, who was the head of the CIA when you were there?

NUMBER TWO: Admiral Rayburn.

CARLISLE: I see. And, number three, what does a contractual basis mean? In other words, you're hired just for a certain amount of time?

NUMBER THREE: A six month period.

CARLISLE: I see. And, number one, now, who does the killing? It says here at the end of the affidavit, you -- the agents will be calously abandoned and sometimes killed -- by us, as well as by the enemy?

NUMBER ONE: I think sometimes you'll find that in situations where individuals are killed, they are left in positions by this government and they either get out or they don't get out. And sometimes they are killed.

CARLISLE: I see. Number two, how were we tricked into the Tonkin Bay Resolution?

NUMBER TWO: Well, the -- the country and the Senators were led to believe that our two destroyers were attacked by North Vietnamese...

CARLISLE: And they were not?

NUMBER TWO: Well, they were, but I think -- if you read the book you'll find that there was maybe some reason for them to attack since we had...

CARLISLE: Thank you. Number one, again...

[Buzzer].

MOORE: Thank you, Kitty. We're going down to Gene.

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GENE RAYBURN: Yes. Number one, do you believe -- or do you develop anything in the book -- are CAE -- are CIA people, are they all good guys or all bad guys, or is there some grey area here?

NUMBER ONE: Well, there's definitely a twilight area, and there are good, and the CIA is certainly a commodity. But as -- as a writer I think it should be brought more to the fore so we all know what's going on.

RAYBURN: Yes. Number three, do you think the CIA is a necessary force in this country? And do you approve of the secret way it operates with its enormous budgets and...

NUMBER THREE: Yes, I do.

RAYBURN: You do?

NUMBER THREE: Yes.

RAYBURN: Number two, where were you trained as a CIA agent.

NUMBER TWO: In Camp Perry, Virginia.

RAYBURN: And, number one, where were you trained?

NUMBER ONE: Camp Perry, Virginia.

RAYBURN: Yeah. And, number three, do you agree with number two's estimate on how the Senate was tricked into going along with the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution?

NUMBER THREE: Yes, the Senators needed to be lured into this trap, so to speak, as we had in the past with the other...

RAYBURN: Number one, to whom did the CIA pass on the information in regard to the Cubans and the Bay of Pigs?

NUMBER ONE: You mean, what individual at the head of the company?

RAYBURN: Yeah, I mean, they -- apparently they unearthed some valuable information in regard...

NUMBER ONE: The valuable information came out in the field, that the Cubans were not ready again to have an uprising within Cuba a la Castro.

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RAYBURN: Yeah, but who do they -- who got...

[Buzzer].

MOORE: Sorry, Gene. Peggy's up, please.

PEGGY CASS: Thank you. Number three, does the CIA come under the Department of Justice or the Department of State, or what?

NUMBER THREE: ...the National Security Act.

CASS: I know, but I -- but that's just an act. Whom do they -- I mean they must have some -- they must be some under some...

NUMBER THREE: Commission -- the National Security Commission...

CASS: Or the Executive or...

NUMBER THREE: No, it's a very small division under -- it's actually a dimunitive of the DIA.

CASS: Thank you. Number one, do you think the CIA had anything to do with that uprising in Guatamala?

NUMBER ONE: They certainly did.

CASS: Thank you. How -- number two, where do you go to join up? I mean, if you're only going to get hired for six months it's practically a part-time job.

NUMBER TWO: You mean, nowadays?

CASS: Yeah.

NUMBER TWO: Well, in...

CASS: Did they find you or did you find them?

NUMBER TWO: No, I found them.

CASS: Well, okay. Say, I wanted to find them...

NUMBER TWO: Right now you go down to 2400 E Street in Washington, D.C. Or if you want to go to Paris, you can see somebody [?] there too...

CASS: Oh. Well, do you have to know a foreign language? I mean, what are your qualifications?

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NUMBER TWO: You don't have to know a foreign language. You could be an ex-soldier, or ex-Marine or somebody who knows something about the military.

CASS: Okay. Number one, who funds the money for the CIA?

Number one.

NUMBER ONE: You do.

CASS: Oh, no. I don't give them a nickle. But where do they get the money, generally?

[Moans and groans].

[Buzzer].

MOORE: You just think you don't. All right. Bill Cullen.

BILL CULLEN: Number three, something has always interested me. While you were a member of the CIA, what did your friends, your close friends and your family -- assuming there were some -- what did they think you were doing at the time? I mean, what -- did you have a cover, in other words?

NUMBER THREE: That's right. We were covered. We just told them we were on a...

RAYBURN: He was an Avon lady.

[Laughter].

NUMBER THREE: No, we're not allowed to disclose what we're doing.

CULLEN: ...to your family or your friends?

NUMBER THREE: Yes. It's vital to security.

CULLEN: Number one, it said you were a contract employee. Was there something explicit in the contract -- a duty that you were to perform or was it mini-duties? I'm answering your question, you...

NUMBER ONE: If -- when you're hired on a -- as a contract employee, you're hired for specific duties that you usually performed in the military. You get higher pay and you're taken out of a uniform and put into a bush jacket and sent out into the field to do the same job.

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CULLEN: Now, number two, this is a very dangerous job, very risky. May I ask how much a fellow can earn in six months taking one of these dangerous jobs for the CIA?

NUMBER TWO: Excuse me -- [words unintelligible] -- [coughs] -- about two thousand, twenty-two hundred dollars a month. Which makes it about fifteen, sixteen thousand dollars...

CULLEN: Uh-huh.

[Buzzer].

MOORE: All righty. There goes the ding-dong. And ballots must be marked on the basis of what we've learned. We must go, of course, to number one, or number two, or number three. And without consulting among ourselves we've market our ballots. And I think Kitty starts, please.

CARLISLE: Well, I voted for number one because when the bell rang, his mouth, in the middle of a word just snapped shut. And I think he's the kind of a guy, yes...

[Confusion of voices].

CARLISLE: ...he's not going to talk.

MOORE: So we've got a one showing. We go on down to Gene.

RAYBURN: Well, I think Peggy tripped up number three on a question about, you know, who -- who -- to whom they report and I've forgotten what tripped up number two, but by a process of elimination I came up with number one.

MOORE: All righty. And, Peggy, what did you decide?

CASS: Well, I thought they were all really good, but I voted for number one because he -- when he said, "you do," I believe -- I don't know, it gave me the chills.

MOORE: Almost everybody has gone for number one. Let's see what Bill Cullen is going to do.

CULLEN: Oh, boy, I'm going against the tide here. All this was new to me and I knew nothing about it. I am going on number three's reactions to questions. I pick number three.

MOORE: Okay. The votes are all in, and will the real Joe Maggio please stand up.

[Applause].

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MOORE: I thought we were going to do better than that.

Number two, let's find out about you. What is your real name, please, and what do you do?

NUMBER TWO: My name is Ralph Brandy. I'm a teacher of Spanish in Ft. Lee High School in Ft. Lee, New Jersey. And I coach baseball also.

[Applause].

MOORE: Number three, tell us about yourself.

NUMBER THREE: My name is Anthony Meadow. I'm a composer/lyricist of a new off-Broadway show, entitled, "Garden Park."

MOORE: Hey, good luck.

[Applause].

MOORE: Joe Maggio, I must - I must confess my own ignorance to Gene's question as to what department the CIA falls under in the government. Does it fall under one of the secretariats?

JOE MAGGIO: No, the CIA is a separate entity unto themselves established by the 1947 Security Act, and they are not, though, the largest intelligence agency in America. The DIA is.

CARLISLE: What's that?

MAGGIO: Defense Intelligence Agency. They dwarf the CIA.

MOORE: But is the DIA in charge of the CIA...

MAGGIO: No, the intelligence community has -- are all separate entities with separate...

MOORE: Well, then number three gave us a correct answer and some of us didn't believe it.

CARLISLE: That's right.

MOORE: Well, it's a fascinating book. And, Joe Maggio, good luck to you with your future. And, gentlemen, thank you all.